

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 04901 091709Z

63

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EA-07 /079 W

----- 044079

R 091405Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8597

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION UN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER VOICES STRONG GOS SUPPORT FOR
ADMISSION OF VIETNAM TO UN

1. IN A CAMPAIGN SPEECH SEPTEMBER 2, SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER SVEN ANDERSSON REVIEWED THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT WITH VIETNAM AND PROMISED STRONG GOS SUPPORT FOR VIETNAM'S ADMISSION TO THE UN IF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ARE RETURNED TO POWER IN THE SEPTEMBER 19 ELECTIONS.

2. ANDERSSON OBSERVED IN HIS SPEECH, GIVEN ON 'THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE STATE OF VIETNAM,' THAT THE SWEDISH LABOR MOVEMENT LONG SUPPORTED THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S FIGHT FOR 'LIBERATION.' HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAD ENCOUNTERED "STRONG OPPOSITION" FROM THE "BOURGEOIS" PARTIES, AND THAT RIGHT-WING CRITICISM OF SWEDEN'S VIETNAM POLICY HAS NOT CEASED WITH THE END OF THE WAR.

3. NOW THAT VIETNAM WANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL

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PAGE 02 STOCKH 04901 091709Z

COOPERATION, ANDERSSON CONTINUED, IT IS "AN OBVIOUS TASK FOR

SWEDEN TO FACILITATE SUCH A DEVELOPMENT." ANDERSSON TERMED ATTEMPTS TO DENY INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION TO THE VIETNAMESE "UNREASONABLE." HE ADDED THAT THE GOS "REGRETS" THE US VETO OF VIETNAM'S ADMISSION TO THE UN, AND THAT "WE HOPE THIS VETO WILL NOT BE REPEATED." ANDERSSON PROMISED "WE WILL, IN OUR CAPACITY AS A MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO ENABLE VIETNAM TO FINALLY TAKE ITS RIGHTFUL SEAT IN THE WORLD ORGANIZATION."

4. COMMENT: ANDERSSON'S STATEMENT REAFFIRMS SWEDEN'S POSITION IN FAVOR OF VIETNAM'S ADMISSION TO THE UN. DESPITE ANDERSSON'S ATTEMPT TO GAIN POLITICAL MILAGE WITH THE QUESTION OF VIETNAM AND THE UN, WE ARE NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT AN OPPOSITION GOVERNMENT WOULD IN FACT OPPOSE VIETNAM'S ENTRY, GIVEN THE RATHER WIDESPREAD SWEDISH SYMPATHY FOR VIETNAM. SWEDISH POLICY ON AID TO VIETNAM, HOWEVER, MIGHT BE SUBJECT TO REVISION.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STOCKH04901
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760341-0648
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760975/aaaacmwh.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 AUG 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER VOICES STRONG GOS SUPPORT FOR ADMISSION OF VIETNAM TO UN
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, SW, VN, VS, UN, (ANDERSSON, SVEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006